

# SPOKANE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

## Nomination Form

City/County Historic Landmarks Commission

Sixth Floor - City Hall

Spokane, Washington 99201-3333

Type all entries--complete applicable sections

### 1. Name

historic \_\_\_\_\_ and/or common \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ The Washington Post Building \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ 223 West Second Avenue \_\_\_\_\_  
city/town \_\_\_\_\_ Spokane \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_  
state \_\_\_\_\_ WA county \_\_\_\_\_ Spokane \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
_____ district	_____ public	_____ occupied	_____ agriculture _____ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	_____ commercial _____ park
_____ structure	_____ both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	_____ educational _____ private residence
_____ site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	_____ entertainment _____ religious
_____ object	_____ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes:restricted	_____ government _____ scientific
	_____ being considered	_____ yes:unrestricted	_____ industrial _____ transportation
		_____ no	_____ military _____ other: <u>gutted</u>

### 4. Owner of Property

name \_\_\_\_\_ Douglas B. Davidson \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ 1608 West Main #6 \_\_\_\_\_  
city,town \_\_\_\_\_ Spokane \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state WA

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse,registry of deeds,etc \_\_\_\_\_ Spokane County Courthouse \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ West 1116 Broadway \_\_\_\_\_  
city,town \_\_\_\_\_ Spokane \_\_\_\_\_ state WA

### 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title \_\_\_\_\_  
date \_\_\_\_\_  federal  state  county  local \_\_\_\_\_  
depository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_  
city,town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

22a-2

## 7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
--excellent    --deteriorated	--unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
--good        --ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	--moved        date -----
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair         --unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Washington Post Building stands on the south side of West Second Avenue, in the second block east of Washington Street. Situated on two lots, this two-story building is constructed of three courses of red pressed brick. The Post building was designed to house a commercial enterprise on the main floor and a single residence on the second story.

Placed to the front of the property line, the building is thirty-one feet wide and fifty feet long. Built upon two 25 by 140 foot lots, there exists twelve feet of side yard to the East, six feet to the West, and a rear yard of over eighty feet to a paved alley. A picture seen in the April 1910 issue of The Washington Post shows a clear view of the front of the building. There was a lawn and trees both in the rear and west side yards. The front of the building remains much the same, other than a coat of brick red paint; however, the lawn and trees are gone.

Laid in a common bond with a header bond every seventh course, the masonry is today intact. The window openings are topped with flat arched lintels, and the sills are brick laid on their sides and pulled out from the face to form a drip lip. The windows themselves are double-hung sash type. Although most of the glass is gone, the wooden window frames are present. The exterior ogee molding is intact; the interior casing is almost all gone. The few pieces that remain inside are of fluted casing with circular pateras with wrap around sills and a molded apron.

The rear, or south side, of the building shows some sign of water worn mortar where the downspout had been missing. The rear landing and stairs have been removed. There is an opening under the second floor rear door, perhaps once a window, that is filled with a wooden plug. The four windows in the back wall are not placed in any pattern; one of these has curved glazing in the uppermost pane matching the curve of the lintel above it. The transom door appears to be the original wooden one. Also the back wall has been painted.

22a-3

## Spokane Register of Historic Places Nomination Form

Continuation sheet

Item number

7

Page

2/3

The west side of the building has an original transom door situated at the center of the wall; five windows open to the second floor, one of which has curved glazing. also on this facade is a single main floor window, and evidence of a second doorway, since bricked off. A double door has been added to this side in the rear portion of this wall. The stepped down, front to back, parapets on this side are defined by three chimneys that serve to flue both floors.

The east facade of the building has similar parapets front to back with three chimneys. Three windows open to the top floor, one with curved glazing and four other windows opening to the first floor. There is one exit door to the side yard.

Both the east and west side yards access the rear yard by way of concrete stairs, as the elevation of the rear yard is several feet above that of the side yards.

Architecturally, the Second Avenue facade of the Washington Post Building is the most interesting. Rising twenty-seven feet to the top of the stepped center portion of the parapet, the face houses five windows and an entry door. Three risers lead to the main floor; the original transom entry is intact, although the door itself has been replaced. Centered over the door opening, is a second floor window of leaded glass split into three vertical panes coming to a point top and bottom.

The parapet is topped with three courses of stepped out brick under a double course. The center section of the parapet is twelve feet long and steps down to each side. Just at the second floor line, three courses of stepped out brick laid under a double course form a stringcourse across the face, with a slight return on either side. Another band is created by a double course of brick pulled out in line with the window sills on the second floor. Also there is an unusual line of what appear to be corbels without a cornice. Formed in eleven courses of brick, this decorative feature gives the building a simple elegance not often seen in a building of this class and size.

22a-4

## Spokane Register of Historic Places Nomination Form

Continuation sheet

Item number

7

Page

3/3

The roof of the Washington Post Building has recently been replaced. The roof is flat, and slopes from front to back. In the process of re-roofing a scupper was discovered at the center of the north facade. This scupper has been repaired and is now functioning.

This building has been remodeled many times.

The most apparent change on the main floor is the removal of the original stairway. Once located at the center of the main floor, the stairs are now against the inside of the east wall. There are heating ducts and plumbing pipes from past remodeling hanging below the ceiling. No interior partitions remain on the main floor, nor does any lath or plaster. The brick walls show no signs of having been plastered, although they have been painted.

Upstairs, the lath and plaster has been removed from the ceiling and the interior partitions. These partitions have been moved and removed many times. Determining which of these walls might be original is difficult; the older framing materials are milled differently from modern ones. It appears that the outside walls were once plaster finished, but this has been removed.

All of the electrical and plumbing fixtures are missing. There are no active utilities to the building at this time, and all the wiring has been removed.

22a-5

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance-Check and justify below		
--prehistoric	--archeology-prehistoric	--economics	--military
--1400-1499	--archeology-historic	--education	--music
--1500-1599	--agriculture	--engineering	--philosophy
--1600-1699	--architecture	--exploration/settlement	--politics/government
--1700-1799	--art	--industry	--religion
--1800-1899	--commerce	--invention	--science
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> communications	--landscape architecture	--sculpture
	--community planning	--law	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
	--conservation	--literature	--theater
			--transportation
			--other(specify)

Specific dates 1886-1910 Builder/Architect Jukeland (Preusse)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Historically significant as the first permanent home of the largest Germanic Language newspaper in the Northwest, the Washington Post Building was completed by Otto Jukeland on the eastern edge of Spokane's Central Business District in the summer of 1903.

Otto Jukeland arrived in Spokane from Leipzig, Germany in 1886. In February of 1889, with fellow immigrant A.M. Armand, Jukeland founded the Washington Post. First published from room 22 in the Eagle Block, the newspaper quickly took its place in the swiftly growing colony of German immigrants. In the year 1900 Jukeland purchased Mr. Armand's interest in the Post.

"Farmers of Germany and southern Russia want better climate and land....The immigration movement from Germany and southern Russia will be unusually heavy owing to the general dissatisfaction among the agricultural class of the empire. The immigrants from southern Russia are Germans, who settled in Russia over 100 years ago during the reign of Catherine the Great....Already the fame of the climate of Washington with equal, if not superior, agricultural resources to those of the states east of the Rockies, has gone abroad....The Beaver line is carrying from 1200 to 1500 immigrants every week, and has been granted special concessions in the way of rates to Spokane and the Inland Empire....They are splendid agriculturalists and are looking to eastern Washington for homes. Already the nucleus of a settlement has been established near Ritzville on the Northern Pacific and another near Odessa on the Great Northern."

Spokesman Review, August 16, 1901

22a-6



## Spokane Register of Historic Places Nomination Form

Continuation sheet

Item number

8

Page

2 / 4

It was during the first ten years of the Twentieth Century that Spokane saw its most dramatic growth in wealth and population. The construction activity in Spokane was never greater : Andrew Carnegie's \$75,000 gift for the building of a new library; the State's appropriation of \$30,000 for the National Guard Armory; the federal allocation of \$99,000 for the Federal Building; President Roosevelt's turning of the first spade in the construction of the Masonic Temple; the start of construction of the first permanent buildings at then Gonzaga College. By the spring of 1903 the combined deposits of Spokane's five largest banks exceeded \$10,000,000.

As the German population in Spokane and the Inland Empire increased, so did the demand for the Washington Post. A member of the first wave of German immigrants, Otto Jukeland soon became a leader in the German colony. It was within this framework that Otto Jukeland made the choices that led to the construction of the Washington Post Building.

In 1902 Otto purchased two lots on West Second Avenue one block east of Washington Street.

"Otto Jukeland, two story brick store, lots 3 and 4, Blk. 110, Fourth addition to Railroad addition, \$4,000." Spokesman Review, April 7, 1903.

In the spring of 1903 this area of West Second, later to become part of the Bernard District, was largely undeveloped. There were many dwellings East of Bernard, but no commercial development. There were some commercial enterprises along Washington Street between Third Avenue and the railroad tracks; the largest of these was the Washington Brick and Lime Factory, having doubled its size early in that same year. Due to the proximity of this brick factory, it can be reasonably surmised that the brick for the Washington Post Building came from the Washington Brick Factory's spring crush of brick. Following the completion of Otto Jukeland's building, many other buildings appeared in this area. The Armory went in across the street, next to the Armory the Bernard Hotel, and right next door the Avondale Apartments were finally completed.

22a-7

## Spokane Register of Historic Places Nomination Form

Continuation sheet

Item number

8

Page 3/4

On Sept. 26, 1903, the Spokesman Review reported the following:

"Mr. Jukeland and Mr. Sonnekes wed boyhood sweethearts. Otto Jukeland, editor of the Washington Post, a German paper printed in this city, and Fritz Sonnekes, an artist, have long traveled the lonesome path of bachelorhood and no maiden in the land of their adoption has been able to entice them into the bonds of matrimony. As they passed toward the shady side of 40 summers, their thoughts have wandered to the pastoral scenes of the fatherland and each bethought him of the sweetheart of his youth.

Finally they sent offers of marriage, Mr. Jukeland to Helen Wagner in Leipzig, in his sunny Saxony, and Mr. Sonnekes to Annie Vogel in fair Magdeburg, the neighboring city to the north, Together the brides to be traveled o'er the seas and arrived in Spokane a few days ago. Mr. Sonnekes was married the next day and Mr. Jukeland and Miss Helen Wagner will be united tonight at the German Lutheran church and will make their home at 223 Second avenue."

Spokesman Review, September 26, 1903

The September 18, 1903 issue of the Washington Post announces the moving of their offices and presses to their new location at 223 West Second Avenue. The October 2, 1903 issue announces the wedding of Otto Jukeland and Helen Wagner at the German Lutheran church, the reception being held at the home of Otto and Helen Jukeland, 223 West Second Avenue.

Although no such records have been found it seems possible that the design for the Washington Post Building was that of the firm of Preusse and Zittel. Preusse was born in Germany in 1847 and received his professional training in Germany. He came to Spokane in 1882. Herman Preusse was know as a public spirited citizen and was surely acquainted with Otto Jukeland. The utilitarian yet elegant simple beauty of the Post building is a tale tell of Preusse's style.

By the year 1910 the population of Spokane had zoomed to over 100,000 souls. The increase in demand for the Washington Post had outgrown the little building at 223 Second avenue. Otto had perhaps foreseen this event as he had purchased a lot on the north east corner of Third avenue and Browne and in the Spring of 1910 he completed the Germania Building. Designed by the firm of Preusse and Zittel, this three-story brick building was "In design and appearance an attractive and imposing structure in that part of town." S.R. Feb. 20, 1910.

22a-8

## Spokane Register of Historic Places Nomination Form

Continuation sheet

Item number

8

Page

4/4

The Post occupied the north end of the main floor with its new modern presses in the basement. The remainder of the first floor housed a total of six storefronts. The two upper floors were arranged for apartments and hotel purposes. In 1911 Otto became an agent for the Hamburg-American Steamship line, as well as publishing and editing the Post. Otto lived in his new building, later known as the Stanley Apartments, with his wife and son, Hans.

"GERMAN COLONY LEADER EXPIRES. Otto Jukeland, 70, well known in German circles for many years died Tuesday evening at his home in the Stanley Apartments, S223 Browne...."

Spokesman Review, December 4, 1929

The Post Building was sold to a Mr. White in 1910. It was renovated to house eight apartments and managed by M.C. Hunter Company of Spokane. In 1931 the building was known as "The Little Brick Apartments", owned and managed by Bert Draper and his wife, Nevada. Brownie's Grocery occupied the main floor in 1947, and by 1950 S.V. Gordon, photographer, was located there. In 1951 R.H. Peck bought the building, renovated the front end of the first floor, renamed it "Kingdom Hall" and held regular meetings of the Jehovah's Witnesses there until 1960. The second floor was consistently used for rooming space; the main floor continued to be used for one thing or another, including an art studio, until the building fell vacant in 1970. In 1976 the building became the studio and offices of Impact Photo and served their purpose until 1983. At that point, the building was abandoned.

The social impact and contributions of Otto Jukeland and the Washington Post are beyond measure. The Washington Post was founded in Spokane in 1889 and was published until 1934, reporting news in German from Germany, the World, Canada, Alaska, the region and Spokane. Without doubt, this newspaper served as the major, in some cases the only, source of news and information for thousands of German-Americans. Today the Washington Post Building stands vacant still, a silent testimony to the largely unwritten story of the German immigrant.

22a-9



---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

---

Edwards. 1910 History of Spokane County  
Polk, City Directory-Spokane  
Spokesman Review  
The Washington Post

---

## 10. Geographical Data

---

Acreage of nominated property 50' x 140'

Lots 3 & 4, Blk 110, Fourth Addition to the Railroad Addition  
Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel #35191.1103

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	_____	county	_____
state	_____	county	_____

---

## 11. Form Prepared By

---

name/title	<u>Douglas B. Davidson</u>		
organization	<u>(owner)</u>	date	<u>Nov. 1992</u>
street & number	<u>1608 W. Main #6</u>	telephone	<u>838-2897</u>
city/town	<u>Spokane</u>	state	<u>WA</u>

22a-10

12. Signature of Owner(s)

*[Handwritten Signature]*

**For Office Use Only:**

Date Received: 11-2-92

Date Heard: 11-18-92

Commission Decision: Approved

Council/Board Action: Approved

Date: 12-14-92

Attest: *Marilyn J. Montgomery*  
City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Ass't City Attorney

We hereby certify that this property has been listed on the Spokane Register of Historic Places:

*Shari S. Barnard*

MAYOR, City of Spokane

or

CHAIR, Spokane County Commissioners

*Robert Ogden*

CHAIR, Spokane City/County Historic Landmarks Commission

*Katherine W. Jewett*

City/County Historic Preservation Officer

# Im neuen Heim.

Die Washington Post bezieht größere und  
bessere Geschäftslokale.

Dem großen Wachstum von Spokane und dem Inlandreich entsprechend, hat  
Washington Post sieben weit größere Geschäftsräume als seither bezogen, in  
n von ihrem Herausgeber Otto Fudeland errichteten Germania Block an Nord  
Ecke Dritte Aue und Grove St. Die „Post“ nimmt Grundflur Räume am

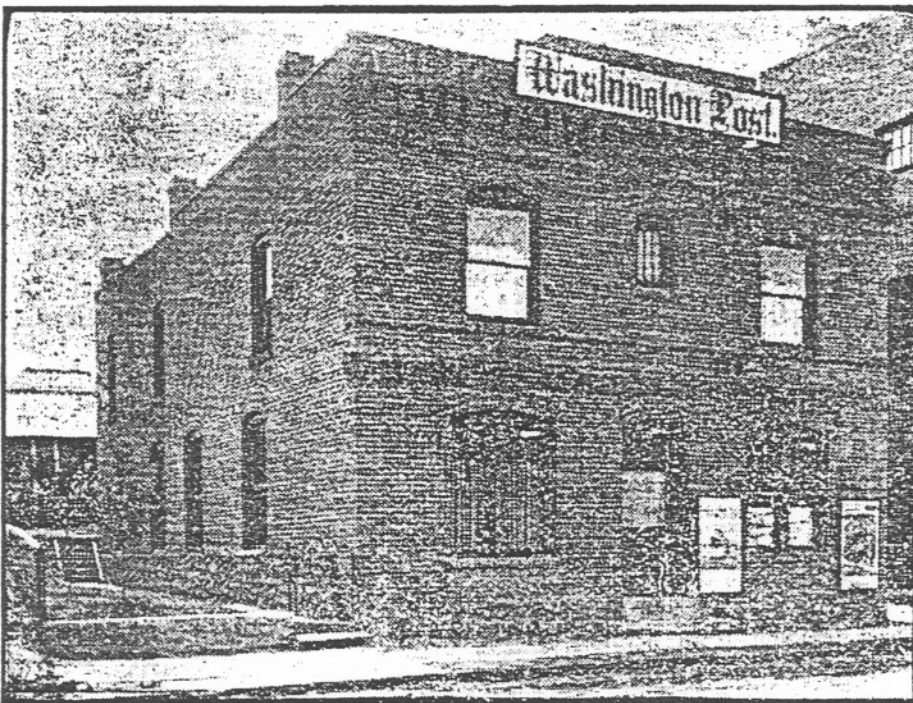


Werdende dieses statt ch  
office und Erkersaal die  
Job Pressen lokirt sind.  
und sonstigen moderne Druckerei Einrichtungen versehen werden. Untersteht  
eine Abbildung des früheren

TODAY

Seite etc, als Geschäfts  
unter die Schnell- und  
h mit Automaten  
223 Dritte Ave.

APRIL 10, 1910



## Spokane Br.

Gate Front 2



— JAS.

Dr. Henry E. Sch  
Deutscher A

Office 314 Hyde Wood, Tel  
Wohnung 207 Ditt Spragg  
Telephon daselbst Main

## Nagel Ho

F. NAGEL,

Neu und hübsch ein  
Gasthaus. Zimmer zu  
Preis per Tag, Woche od

Barzimmer mit den best  
einen, Liqueuren und Glas

**BOSTON MAN**  
22a-12  
Zweite Ave. und Cedar  
Telephon Main 192

... d  
... t  
... n  
... i  
... a  
... ch  
... eit  
... ge  
... li  
... on  
... hrt  
... zur  
... der

... wird  
... eben,  
... größ-  
... t be-  
... geht.  
... nigen  
... von